

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT**

Arizona State Office
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Phoenix, Arizona 85004
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In Reply Refer To:
1793 (AZ-932) P

October 11, 2001

EMS TRANSMISSION:10/11/01
Instruction Memorandum No. AZ-2002-002
Expires: 9/30/02

To: Field Office Managers

From: State Director

Subject: Vegetation Treatments Programmatic EIS Information Data Call

DD:

11/27/2001

Program Areas: Rangeland Improvements, Vegetation Treatments, Abandoned Mined Lands, Fire and Hazardous Fuels Reduction, Emergency Stabilization and Restoration, Conservation and Restoration Treatments, Threatened and Endangered Species, Wildlife Habitat and Noxious Weeds/Invasive Species.

Background: Four Bureau of Land Management (BLM) programmatic vegetation treatment EIS's, developed in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), are reaching their limits of usefulness because of dated supportable analysis (12-14 years), and new information gathered since their preparation. The four EIS's, dating from the mid to late 1980's and early 1990's, assessed vegetation treatment alternatives ranging from mechanical manipulation, chemical treatments and prescribed fire to the use of biological agents. The scope of the existing documents is programmatic, and the average annual acres of treatment selected in the ROD equate to about 350,000 acres Bureau-wide. Today, the BLM is treating or proposing to treat upwards of 4-5 million acres annually among all program areas including prescribed and managed natural fire, Integrated Weed Management, Hazardous Fuels Reduction, Emergency Stabilization and Restoration, and landscape level restoration initiatives such as the Great Basin Restoration Initiative.

Purpose: This Instruction Memorandum serves as a data call seeking an initial assessment of vegetation treatment needs for each Field Office in Arizona. This information should be noted on Table 1 (Attachment 1). To provide information for Table 1, you should review and further refine data previously submitted in FY 2001 for Hazardous Fuels Reduction and Wildland Urban

Interface projects to implement the National Fire Plan. Include any projects proposed through a regional landscape-level restoration initiative such as the Great Basin Restoration Initiative, as well as all other non-fire related, resource program-driven vegetation conservation and restoration treatment projects (e.g., rangeland improvements, habitat improvement, emergency stabilization and restoration, integrated weed management). Include also maintenance for existing project developments (chaining, seeding, etc.). This review should include all proposed treatment acreage outlined in current land use and activity plans. These data should be characterized by type of treatment proposed (hazardous fuel reduction, green-stripping, emergency stabilization and restoration, integrated weed management, habitat improvement, etc.); method of treatment (e.g., mechanical, manual, prescribed or managed natural fire, chemical, and biological); method of application (e.g., chaining, feller-buncher, discing), and acres proposed to be treated, both in the near-term (0-3 years) and long-term (4-10 + years). To assist in estimating treatment projects in the long-term, Field Offices should also consider projects that have been implemented over the last decade in their jurisdictions to determine the types of treatments already implemented and likely to be accomplished in the future. In completing Table 1, each project should be identified by a tracking number designation (State-Field Office code-sequential 3-digit number, starting with 001).

Please refer to the “Thirteen States Vegetation Treatment” EIS Record of Decision for examples of treatment methods and a breakdown of the types of applications by treatment. It is important to identify all potential treatment methods that may be used in your Field Office, because the methods available today may not have been identified in the previous EIS effort. These data will be used to provide the basis for public scoping in Arizona.

As the analysis develops, the EIS contractor, ENSR International, will work closely with the National Science and Technology Center (NSTC) and State and Field Offices to further refine the data and develop the spatial context for the analysis. Further information requests/data calls to support the development of the EIS will be accomplished informally through the State Points of Contact (Attached).

Please complete Table 1 and forward it to Bill Grossi at AZ-932 no later than 11/27/01. The information will be condensed into one table and forwarded to the Washington Office. Your prompt attention to this matter is appreciated. Additional background information is attached. If you desire additional information, please contact Bill Grossi at (602) 417-9241.

SIGNED BY:
Al Burch
Acting State Director

AUTHENTICATED BY:
Melissa Gishie
Staff Assistant

Attachment

Table 1

[Arizona]

Project ID (ST-FO-####)	Treatment Type (Haz Fuel Reduction, ESR, IWM, Range, Wildlife, AML, Maintenance, etc.)	Treatment Method (Mechanical, Manual, Chemical, Fire, Biological, etc.)	Application Method (chaining, tilling, mowing, roller chopping, etc)*	Annual Treatment Acres Anticipated short-term** (0-3 years)	Average Annual Treatment Acres Anticipated long- term*** (3 - 10+ years)
e.g. AZ-010-001	e.g. Hazardous Fuels	e.g. Mechanical	e.g. Feller-Buncher	e.g. 2,000 acres	e.g. 2,500 acres
AZ-010-002					
AZ-010-003					

* For each Treatment Method, identify the method of application.

** This data should reflect treatments proposed since FY2001 and anticipated for FY2002 and FY2003. Beyond FY2003, treatment acres should be extrapolated as accurately as possible given anticipated field office capabilities (contracting included).

** This data should reflect the trends established in the short-term with reasonable projections based on increases or decreases in anticipated field office capabilities (contracting included).

EIS PREPARATION SCHEDULE

Task	Begin	Complete
Develop SOW	6/15/01	7/12/01
Develop Consultation Agreement w/FWS, NMFS	7/23/01	8/9/01
Issue RFQ	7/20/01	7/20/01
Select Contractor	7/20/01	8/8/01
Award Contract	8/10/01	8/10/01
Collect and Review Data	8/11/01	8/31/01
Initiate Scoping FR NOI	9/06/01	12/6/01
Hold Scoping Meetings	9/21/01	11/22/01
Initiate Sec. 7 consultation	9/6/01	11/6/01
Analyze Scoping Comments	11/12/01	12/12/01
Develop PA and Alternatives	12/6/01	12/31/01
Develop Risk Assessment	12/6/01	12/21/01
Prepare Biological Assessment	12/6/01	3/31/02
Develop Impact Analysis	1/2/02	1/31/02
Prepare Preliminary DEIS	2/1/02	3/31/02
BLM Review DEIS	4/1/02	4/30/02
Prepare camera-ready DEIS and Print	5/1/02	5/30/02
Issue DEIS FR NOA	6/1/02	6/1/02
Public Comment Period	6/1/02	8/31/02

Task	Begin	Complete
Hold Public Meetings	6/21/02	7/19/02
Review Comments	8/5/02	8/16/02
Prepare Comment Responses	8/19/02	9/15/02
Prepare Preliminary FEIS	9/2/02	10/25/02
BLM review FEIS	10/28/02	11/30/02
Prepare camera-ready FEIS and Print	12/1/02	12/31/02
Issue FEIS FR NOA	1/2/03	1/2/03
Public Review Period	1/2/03	2/3/03
Write Record of Decision	1/2/03	2/3/03
State Directors sign RODS	2/10/03	2/10/03
Director Sign RODs	2/25/03	2/25/03
Assistant Secretary sign concurrence	3/4/03	3/4/03
Print RODs	3/5/03	4/1/03
Issue RODs FR NOA	4/4/03	4/4/03
Implement RODs	4/4/03	4/4/03

IDT TEAM LIST

MANAGEMENT TEAM

<i>Name, Title</i>	<i>Agency/Office</i>	<i>Responsibility</i>
Henri Bisson, Assistant Director	WO 200	Policy
ELT, All State Directors	BLM States	Policy
Timothy Reuwsaat, Rangeland Resources Group Manager (202) 452-5179	WO 220	Range, Soil, Water, Air.

CORE TEAM

<i>Name, Title</i>	<i>Agency/Office</i>	<i>Responsibility</i>
Gina Ramos, Senior Weeds Specialist (202) 452-5084	WO 220	Team Lead
Brian Amme, Environmental Protection Specialist (775) 861-6645	NV 930	Co-Team Lead
Gina Ramos, Senior Weeds Specialist (202) 452-5084	WO 220	Noxious Weeds, Invasive species

Carl Gossard, Natural Resource Specialist (208) 387-5419 (208) 863-8367 cell	OFA 130	Air Quality, Smoke Mgt.
Carol MacDonald, Planning and Environmental Analyst (202) 452-5111	WO 210	NEPA
Carol Spurrier, Botanist (202) 452-7736	WO 230	T&E/S Plants
Donald Foote (303) 236-3534	NBC	Contract Administrator
Celia Boddington (202) 452-5128	WO-610	Public Affairs

INTERDISCIPLINARY & SUPPORT TEAMS

<i>Name, Title</i>	<i>Agency/Office</i>	<i>Resource(s)</i>
Peter Teensma (202) 452-5053	WO-220	Hazardous Fuels
Scott Archer (303) 236-6400	ST-130	Air Quality
Carl Gossard (208) 387-5419	OFA-130	Smoke Management
Bill Carey (303) 236-0103	ST-130	Water Quality/Chemistry
Kristin Bail (541) 416-6790	OSO	Surface Water
Paul Summers (303) 236-0151	ST-130	Ground Water
Sherm Karl (202) 452-7747	WO-220	Terrestrial Vegetation
Gina Ramos (202) 452-5084	W0-220	Noxious Weeds, Invasive Species
Arnie Berglund (801) 539-4052	UTSO	Wetlands and Riparian
Arnie Berglund (801) 539-4052	UTSO	Fisheries Habitat
Bill Grossi (602) 417-9241 Bruce Durtsche (alternate) (303) 236-6310	AZSO ST-130	Wildlife Habitat
Bill Grossi (602) 417-9241	AZSO	T/E Animals

<i>Name, Title</i>	<i>Agency/Office</i>	<i>Resource(s)</i>
Roger Rosentretter (208) 373-3824	IDSO	T/E Plants
Bill Murphy (503) 952-6064	OSO	Hazardous Materials
Rick Tholen (208) 373-4049	WO-230 @IDSO	Forestry and Woodland Resources
Tom Enright (307) 775-6329	WYSO	Livestock Grazing
Mark Hafkenshiel	CO-WRFO	Wild horses and Burros
Bill Ypsilantis (303) 236-3404	ST-130	Soils
Alan Stanfill (303) 236-1734	WO 240 @ NSTC	Cultural and Historic Resources (TCPs, TLAs)
Jerry Cordova (202) 452-7756	WO-240	Native American Issues
Dave Porter (303) 239-3949	WO-170 @ COSO	Wilderness
Dave Porter (303) 239-3949 Rob Hellie (alternate) (202) 452-7703	WO-170 @ COSO	Special Areas (NLCS)
Dave Porter (303) 239-3949	WO-170 @ COSO	Wild & Scenic Rivers
Stew Jacobson (801) 539-4235	WO-250 @ UTSO	Visual Resource Management
Stew Jacobson (801) 539-4235	WO-250 @ UTSO	Recreation

<i>Name, Title</i>	<i>Agency/Office</i>	<i>Resource(s)</i>
John Styduhar (503) 952-6454	OSO	Rights of Way
Wendy Favinger (406) 896-5032	MTSO	Economic Conditions
Joan Trent (406) 896-5034	MTSO	Social Environment
Henry McNeel (406) 896-5043	MTSO	Pesticide Use
Ken Smith (303) 236-0206	ST-130	Toxicology
		Data Coordinator
Wendy Bullock (303) 236-3261	ST-130	Spatial Data Analyst

NOTE: Other BLM or other agency specialists or employees may be identified during the EIS preparation.

Points of Contact for EIS Field Review:

<i>Name, Title</i>	<i>Agency/Office</i>	<i>e-mail/phone</i>
Carol Mac Donald (202) 452-5111	WO 210	Point of Contact
Gina Ramos (202) 452-5084	WO 220	Point of Contact
Carol Spurrier (202) 452-7736	WO 230	Point of Contact
John Douglas (202) 452-0327	WO 240	Point of Contact

<i>Name, Title</i>	<i>Agency/Office</i>	<i>e-mail/phone</i>
Carl Gossard (208) 387-5419	OFA	Point of Contact
Dave Schafersman (303) 236-1143 Dan Muller (alternate) (303) 236-7198	NSTC	Point of Contact
Donald Foote (303) 236-3534	NBC	Point of Contact
Gene Terland (907) 271-3344	AKSO	Point of Contact
Bill Grossi (602) 417-9241	AZSO	Point of Contact
Dianna Brink (916) 978-4645	CASO	Point of Contact
Chuck Romanillo	COSO	Point of Contact
Sharon Paris (208) 373-4028	IDSO	Point of Contact
John Moorhouse (406) 896-5068	MT-DAK SO	Point of Contact
Bernie Chavez (505) 438-7668	NM-OK SO	Point of Contact
Duane Wilson (775) 861-6587	NVSO	Point of Contact
Larry Larsen (503) 952-6080	OR-WA SO	Point of Contact
Larry Lichthardt (801) 539-4168	UTSO	Point of Contact

<i>Name, Title</i>	<i>Agency/Office</i>	<i>e-mail/phone</i>
Ken Henke (307) 775-6041	WYSO	Point of Contact